THE MARK OF THE BEAST REV. 13:16-18; 14:9-12

Introduction:

- A. We have seen the beast rise up out of the sea.
 - 1. v13:1, "rise up out of the sea."
 - 2. The beast is wounded unto death. v3
 - 3. Men worship the beast. v4
 - 4. The beast blasphemes God. v6
 - 5. The beast makes war with the saints. v7
 - 6. The beast has 42 months of power. v5
- B. The second beast comes from the earth. v11
 - 1. He is the False Prophet.
 - 2. He "causes" the earth to worship the beast. v12
 - He does great wonders, v13
 - 4. He deceives. v14
 - He deceives people into making an image of the beast. v14
 - 6. He gives life to the image. v15

I. THE BEAST DEMANDS VERIFIABLE LOYALTY. V16

- A. "And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads."
 - 1. causeth = poleo to be the means of anything.
 - 2. small and great = mikros and megas.
 - 3. rich = plousis wealthy.
 - poor = ptochos poor, poor as a beggar.
 - 5. mark = charagma a mark cut in, soldiers received.
- B. Christ demands loyalty but His is not predicated on force or intimidation.
 - 1. Jesus allows us total freedom of will.
 - 2. He will never force us.

- II. THE POWER OF THE FALSE PROPHET TO ENFORCE THE MARK. V17
 - A. "And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."
 - 1. buy = agorazo to do business in the agora.
 - 2. sell = poleo to trade away, barter.
 - One of three circumstances:
 - a. The mark.
 - b. The name.
 - c. The number.
 - B. The economic atmosphere.
 - There will be world-wide economic chaos prior to his coming to power.
 - 2. He will solve this problem. Dan. 8:25, "and through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hands."
 - 3. There will be plenty but goods can not be sold to those who do not worship the beast.

III. THE NUMBER OF THE BEAST. V18

- A. "Here is wisdom, Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast."
 - 1. wisdom = sophia.
 - understanding = noun reason, mind.
 - count = arithmon.
- B. "for it is the number of a man, and his number is six hundred threescore and six."
 - 1. number = arithmos a definite number.
 - man = anthropos a man, a woman, an individual of the human race, If not man, 666, an animal.
- IV. THE DESTINY OF THE BEAST AND THOSE WHO WORSHIP HIM. V14:9-11

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- A. The identification. v9
 - The fall of Babylon and the fall of the antichrist are the same events. [false religion]
 - 2. "If any man."
- B. The torment of his worshipers. v10
 - 1. "He shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God."
 - 2. "Which is poured out without mixture."
 - "He shall be tormented."
 - 4. "In the presence of...."
- C. The duration of the torment. vii
 - 1. "forever and ever."
 - 2. "no rest day or night."
- V. GOD'S ENCOURAGEMENT. V14:12-13